

Montana Public Service Commission 1701 Prospect Avenue PO Box 202601 Helena MT 59620-2601

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PSC COMMISSIONER DOUG MOOD TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS IN HAMILTON AND MISSOULA ON PROPOSED SALE OF NORTHWESTERN TO BBI

Public Service Commissioner Doug Mood, who represents west-central and northwestern Montana on the PSC, will hold meetings in Hamilton and Missoula in March to hear public comments on the proposed acquisition of NorthWestern Corporation by the Australian firm Babcock & Brown Infrastructure Ltd. for \$2.2 billion. Public comments will follow short presentations by company representatives as available.

The Hamilton meeting will be held Thursday, March 1, at 7 pm, in the City Hall, upper level, 223 S. 2nd Street.

The Missoula meeting will be held Thursday, March 8, at 7 pm, in the City Hall, Council Chambers, 140 W. Pine Street.

The PSC proceeding to review the proposed transaction began last June when NorthWestern and Babcock & Brown filed a joint application with the PSC for authorization for BBI to acquire all of the common stock of NorthWestern and to assume its debt under an agreement and plan of merger. The PSC's technical hearing in the case is set to begin March 14 in Helena.

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